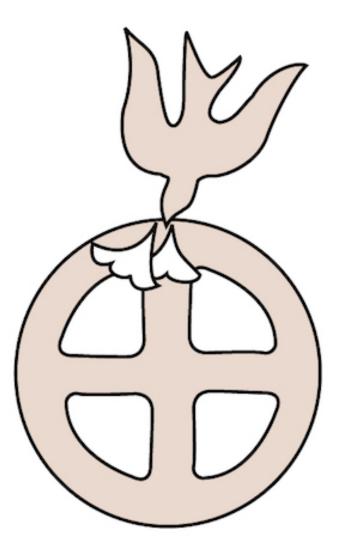
# St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church



NOVEMBER 13, 2022 Live Streamed on <u>YouTube</u>

10:30AM

#### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION \*

What happens when you are spiritually prepared and desire to receive communion, but can't? Such a case is referenced by a paragraph in the 1979 Prayer Book:

If a person desires to receive the Sacrament, but, by reason of extreme sickness or physical disability, is unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine, the Celebrant is to assure that person that all the benefits of Communion are received, even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth.

A nation-wide shut down due to a pandemic fits, I'm sure we'll agree, with the words "by any other impediment" listed in the first Prayer Book. Our Lord will not cut us off from his grace. If we truly desire him, he will come to us, even if we cannot receive the Sacraments he has instituted so that we may receive his grace. This is not a new idea. St Thomas Aquinas, writing nearly 800 years ago, said:

before receiving a sacrament, the reality of the sacrament can be had through the very desire of receiving the sacrament. Accordingly, before actual reception of this sacrament, a man can obtain salvation through the desire of receiving it, just as he can before Baptism through the desire of Baptism, as stated above (Summa, III.73.iii)

Desiring to receive the spiritual grace of the Most Holy Eucharist (and being prevented from receiving it sacramentally) is known as Spiritual Communion. It is so very important to note that this gift is given to us when we cannot, for very good reason, be present at mass.

When you are watching a live-stream or recording of our liturgies, any of the following prayers may be said at the moment of communion when you would normally leave your pew and make your journey to the altar:

In Union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from You. Let me live and die in Your love. Amen.

OR

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. (from Enriching Our Worship 2)

OR

"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you with all my heart. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already in my heart and unite myself to you completely. Please do not let me ever by separated from you." (by St. Alphonsus Liguori)

\*Except where otherwise indicated, the whole of this article (with only very little amendment) is taken from the website of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where it was posted on April 5, 2020. No author was specified.

## THE HOLY VIRTUAL EUCHARIST

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 28

## THE WORD OF GOD

#### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Prelude

Voluntary on "Deep River"

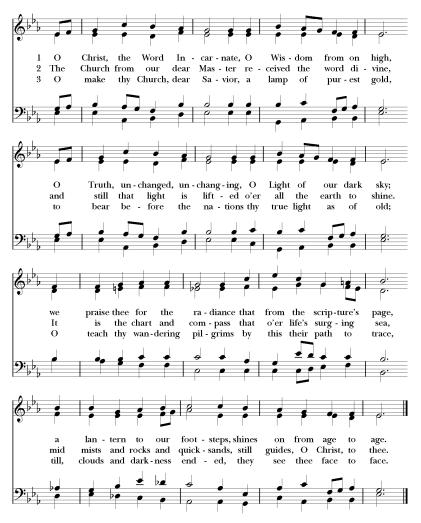
arr. G. T. Walter

We invite you to please silence your cell phones and to enter worship in stillness, silence, and reverence during the Prelude, which begins our service.

#### **Processional Hymn 632**

#### O Christ, the Word Incarnate

MUNICH



#### **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Celebrant:Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.People:And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

#### COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 355



#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord— and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent-- its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

#### Canticle 9 (spoken)

Surely, it is God who saves me; \* I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \* and he will be my Savior. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \* from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, \* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; Make his deeds known among the peoples; \* see that they remember that his Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \* and this is known in all the world. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \* for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

#### THE SECOND READING

#### 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.* 

#### Sequence Hymn 679

#### Surely it is God who saves me

THOMAS MERTON



#### THE GOSPEL

## Celebrant:The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Luke.People:Glory to you, O Christ.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, `I am he!' and, `The time is near!' Do not go after them. "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.* 

THE SERMON: Ron Balthazor

#### THE NICENE CREED

#### (said by all)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

#### For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world; We pray for our President, Joseph, our Governor, Brian, and our Mayor, Kelly.

#### For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

#### For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Rob, Paul, and Don, our Bishops; (...) and for all bishops and other ministers, priests, deacons, and clergy associates, especially Lin, Dutton, Carol, Ellen, Christina, & Nikki;

#### For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for (...)

Hear us, Lord;

#### For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for (...)

BCP 358

#### We will exalt you, O God our King; And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; **Who put their trust in you.** 

The Celebrant adds a Collect.

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Celebrant*: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

THE PEACE

*Celebrant*: The peace of Christ be always with you. People: And also with you.

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### **Offertory Anthem**

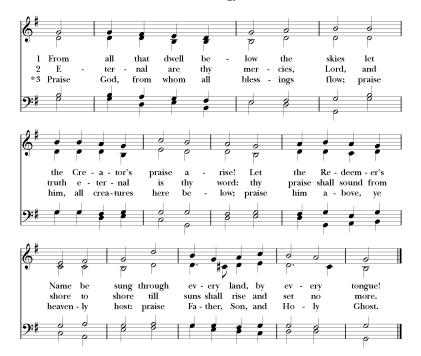
#### Song of the Wanderer

The barren land around me lies, my flame is burning low; Cold and pale the winter skies, and I am far from home. With my light that burns so dim, Am I visible to Him? Does He hear the fragile song of creatures here below? He wakes the lark and bids her fly to greet the coming spring, Wakes our hearts and bids us rise then gives our spirits wing. He speaks and winter melts away, He hears us when we pray, Turns our nighttime into day - our Light, our Life, our King. Glorious joy of summer sun, the gentle healing rain, Banishing our tears and sighs, with beauty for our pain. Earth and sky, lay glory by - Christ, the Lord, is drawing nigh! All creation, bow to Him From whom all blessings flow! Blows the wind, and soon will come the autumn of the year With its golden light of love still shining ever clear. From the rising of the sun, to the place where day is done, Peace on earth has now begun to cast away our fear; Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Dan Forrest

#### Presentation Hymn 380 v.3

Doxology



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

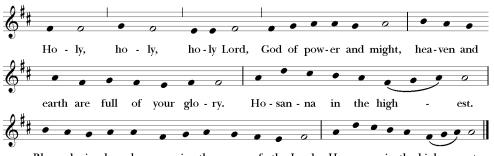
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface may be said)

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

\* Sanctus S-124

#### Holy, holy, holy Lord

David Hurd



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

#### The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

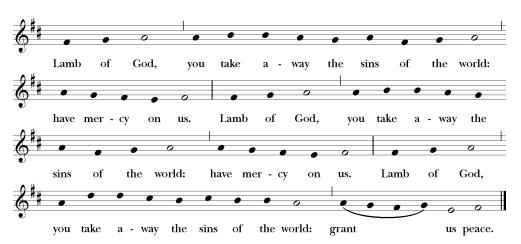
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

\*Fraction Anthem S-161

Lamb of God

David Hurd

BCP 364



#### THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

#### **Communion Solo**

Steal Away to Heaven Christina LaFontaine, soprano arr. Mark Hayes

#### **Communion Hymn 13 LEVAS**

My Lord, What a Morning

Negro Spiritual



#### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Enriching Our Worship 2

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot physically consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire, and be renewed for your service, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

#### POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING

Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth



THE DISMISSAL

Deacon:Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.People:Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Divertimento in C

F. J. Haydn

ዮ

Special thanks to Karen Bergmann, Alexis Boylan, Christina LaFontaine, Jennifer Norris, and Sean Smith for their music today!

\*\*\*

The altar flowers are dedicated to the honor and glory of God, and in thanksgiving for all of the blessings that we have.

## Prayers of the People

In our Parish we pray for Randall Abney, Carolyn Abney, Sue Bush, Janice Rusk, Jennifer Polzin, Carol Whitson, Karen Kassinger, Susan Williams, Dan Williams, Amy Watkins, Pat MacKinnon, Dick MacKinnon, Shelby Welch, Ali Elyaman, Ben Barkdoll, Don Downie, Olivia Carlisle, Angie Defalco, Stephanie Gamble, Ken Packer, Kay, Ben, Mobley, Scott, Lynn, and Pete.

In thanksgiving for those celebrating their birthday this week: Vicky Tavernier, Clare Boyle, Mary Laing, Lydia Peck, Jeff Welch, Max Tavernier, Sue Alford, Isaiah Camoston, and Jordan Vail.

The people listed here are prayed for by name at each Sunday service. To request prayer for yourself or someone else, please call the office (706-546-7553). If at the beginning of the next month the person needs to remain on the list, please call and give the office an update.

## **TODAY**

## THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION for FOOD BANK | LAST DAY!

Please take a paper grocery bag with a shopping list attached, fill it with the items requested by the Food Bank for their clients' Thanksgiving dinners, and return it to St. Gregory's any weekday or Sunday through November 13th. We have missed doing this the last few years due to Covid; but we have an opportunity once again to support this important ministry in our community. If you need assistance with shopping or pick up of your purchases, call Marge Massey, 706-255-2145. Thank you. *'If you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out, your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight.'' Isaiah 58:10 MSG Bible* 

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION COMMITTEE | 12PM

The Spiritual Formation Committee will meet after the 10:30AM service today in the room next to Kendall's office. Anyone is welcome to join!

## THIS WEEK

### MOVIE NIGHT | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

This month, on Nov. 18, we will be watching *Best of Enemies* (2019), directed by Robin Bissell. "*Based on a true story — civil rights activist Ann Atwater faces off against C.P. Ellis, Exalted Cyclops of the Ku Klux Klan, in 1971 Durham, NC over the issue of school segregation.*" Join us in the parish hall and enjoy some popcorn and soft drinks - or bring a blanket and a picnic dinner! The movie begins promptly at 7pm.

## COMING UP ...

## ADVENT SPIRITUAL FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Please see your insert for two (2) spiritual formation class opportunities during Advent!

## **NOTES**

#### COUNTING OPPORTUNITY

With the departure of Marilyn Walsh for parts South in the next couple of weeks, we have an immediate need for a counter, someone to tally the week's contributions to St. Gregory the Great between the third and fourth Sundays each month. You'll be trained and have an experienced counting partner, Katie Hein. You'll choose a time convenient for both of you to count each month at the church. It's a 30 minute, once/month commitment. Please contact Jane Hudson, janeghudson@gmail.com, to volunteer. Remember, we're still a small enough parish that we need everyone's help to get everything done.

## CALL FOR NEW ARTWORK FOR CARD MINISTRY

Saint Gregory's is blessed with many artists of all ages and we are looking for new artwork for our 2023 cards. The Card Ministry sends cards to members of the congregation who are bereaved, in need of encouragement due to illness or circumstance, and for birthdays for folks 70 and older and 18 and under. If you have a work of art that you would like to share please send a jpeg file to Jenifer Borg. We will choose a two images for each category for 2023. Images should be photographed and submitted at 300 dpi. The deadline is 11/20/22. We look forward to seeing your artwork! Email to jeniferaborg@aol.com

Please put Card Ministry Submission 2023 in the subject line. Include your name, the title of the artwork, the dimensions of the work in the email. Attach your jpeg file, 300 dpi . Please email submissions by Nov. 20, 2022.

#### THE ALTAR GUILD NEEDS YOU!

The altar guild is looking for new volunteers! You will be trained! Please contact Barbara Dean at 706-354-4269 or bdean70020@gmail.com.

#### **BLINDSPOT GROUP CHAT**

If you're in your 20s or 30s and would like to stay up to date on events for your age group please reach out to Wade McGlamery, 770-624-4837, to join our group chat.

#### Those Who Serve

Vestry: Caley Ross Readers: Stacie Court (8AM) Karen Hankins (10:30AM) EMs: Beth Thornton & Karen Hankins Crucifer: Beth Thornton & Maggie Reinberger Torches: Gavin Avinger & Roger Schwenke Flowers: Mary Ann Cox Altar Guild: Berni McCranie & David Lowe Ushers: Bill & Lois Alworth Counters: Maggie Reinberger & Anna Hiers Livestream: Pete Nicholls

#### **Clergy and Staff**

**The Rev. Nikki Mathis** Rector *rector@stgregoryathens.org* | 706-546-7553 x2

**The Rev. Christina Dondero** Deacon christinadondero@gmail.com | 404-918-7248

**Kendall M. Kookogey** Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper *office@stgregoryathens.org* | 706-546-7553 x1

Jonathan Klein Music Director/Organist jonathanfk@gmail.com | 706-296-8102

Joseph Napoli Choir Director awn1984@att.net | 706-546-6638

**Doug Adkins** Director of Children's Ministries *jdadkins@hotmail.com* | 706-474-4784

Wade McGlamery Youth Minister wwmcglamery@gmail.com | 770-624-4837

Jude Red-Bear Nursery Director *juderedbear@icloud.com* | 706-614-0008

Mark Hein Buildings/Grounds markehein@gmail.com | 706-549-3239

**Terri Tillman** WebMaster *ttillman@gmail.com* 

Anthony Barkdoll Livestream Coordinator anthonybarkdoll@gmail.com

#### Peachy Green Clean Co-op Sexton

Nursery Attendants: Missy Hamlin, Jude Red Bear, Danielle Lyle, Megan Reuter, Allie Weaver

Vestry Members: Eddie Bennett; John Bray; Stacie Court; Gail Eilers; Blaine Everson; Anna Hiers; Jane Hudson; LeeAnne Krause; Lane Norton; Maggie Reinberger; Mark Richardson; Caley Ross; Chrissy Moffett, Clerk; Les House, Treasurer

#### Vestry Person of the Day/Week: Caley Ross greenthumbsross@gmail.com